

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DHA-02 OMB-01 EB-08 TRSE-00 FEAE-00 EUR-12

ACDA-07 /107 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4893

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0252

DEPT PLEASE PASS OAU COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON, PFOR, OAU, OPEC

SUBJ: AFRO-ARAB COMMITTEE OF 24 MEETING CONCLUDES; NO DECISIONS

TAKEN ON OAU COMMITTEE OF 12 SUGGESTIONS FOR COOPERATION

REF: LUSAKA 0238

SUMMARY: AFRO-ARAB COMMITTEE OF 24 CONCLUDED ITS DELIBERATIONS
JANUARY 26 WITHOUT TAKING ANY DECISIONS ON THE OAU COMMITTEE
OF 12 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCREASED COOPERATION (REFTEL.
CHAIRMAN OF THE OAU COMMITTEE OF 12 ALSO SUBMITTED A DOCUMENT
SPELLING OUT IN MORE DETAIL AFRICAN SUGGESTIONS FOR ARAB ECONOMIC
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ASSISTANCE. SINCE ARAB COMMITTEE OF 12 NOT EMPOWERED TO TAKE
DECISIONS MATTERS WILL BE REFERRED TO THE AFRO-ARAB MINISTERIAL
MEETING. COMMITTEE OF 24 UNANIMOUSLY CONDEMNED SMITH'S REJECTION
OF THE BRITISH PROPOSALS ON RHODESIA AND CALLED FOR WITHDRAWAL
OF ISRAEL FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND AGREED TO AN ALLOCATION
\$14 MILLION TO ANGOLA. END SUMMARY

1. ACTING IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE OAU COMMITTEE OF 12, TANZANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER NDUGU IBRAHIM KADUMA, SUBMITTED A DOCUMENT TO THE COMMITTEE OF 24 WHICH EMPHASIZED THE ECONOMIC HARDSHIP INCREASED OIL PRICES CAUSE AFRICAN STATES. DOCUMENT NOTED THE HIGHLY UNFAVORABLE DIFFERENTIAL RATE OF GROWTH OF RESERVES BETWEEN THE AFRO-ARAB OPEC MEMBERS AND OTHER AFRICAN STATES. KADUMA'S PAPER WENT ON TO STATE THAT INCREASING OIL PRICES ALSO LEAD TO WORSE TERMS OF TRADE FOR AFRICAN NATIONS AND NOTED THAT THE STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, RACISM AND ZIONISM WAS DEPENDENT ON ECONOMIC STRENGTH. SINCE THE AFRO-ARAB OPEC MEMBERS HAVE THE RESOURCES TO MAKE AVAILABLE, IT IS AN EMBARRASSMENT THAT AFRICAN STATES ARE FORCED TO TURN TO DEVELOPED IMPERIALIST COUNTRIES FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE.

2. ACCORDING TO THE JANUARY 27 PRESS, KADUMA OUTLINED FOUR POSSIBILITIES FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE AFRO-ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS' AND SUMMIT MEETINGS. FIRST, AFRO-ARAB OIL-PRODUCING STATES SHOULD CONSIDER LENDING 2,000 MILLION (U.S.) TO AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS AT NOMINAL RATES OF INTEREST. SECOND, A 200 MILLION (U.S.) GRANT SPREAD OVER FOUR YEARS SHOULD BE MADE THE ADB WHICH PROVIDES LOANS TO MEMBERS ON CONCESSIONARY TERMS FOR LOW RETURN SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS. THIRD, PROPOSED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE THAT AN UNSPECIFIED AMOUNT SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO VIABLE NATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS OF MEMBER STATES. FOURTH, THERE SHOULD BE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO AUGMENT THE FUNDS OF YET TO BE ESTABLISHED SOLIDARITY FUND OF THE NON-ALIGNED.

3. THE PROPOSALS LAID BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF 24 ARE TO BE CONFIDENTIAL

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REFERRED TO THE MINISTERIAL MEETING ON AFRO-ARAB COOPERATION BECAUSE THE 12 ARAB REPRESENTATIVES HAD NO MANDATE TO TAKE DECISIONS.

4. THE COMMITTEE OF 24 ON AFRO-ARAB COOPERATION AGREED ON A DECLARATION UNANIMOUSLY CONDEMNING SMITH'S REJECTION OF THE BRITISH PROPOSALS ON RHODESIA AND CALLING ON OTHER ARAB AND AFRICAN NATIONS TO CONDEMN THE SMITH REGIME. COMMITTEE ALSO AGREED IN ITS DECLARATION ON SUPPORT FOR PALESTINE AND ON CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL.

5. ACCORDING TO THE EGYPTIAN CHARGE, THE AFRO-ARAB TALKS DID NOT END IN A DEADLOCK AS REPORTED IN ONE LOCAL PAPER. THE KADUMA DOCUMENT PRESENTED THE LAST DAY OF THE MEETING CAME AS A SURPRISE TO THE ARAB DELEGATES. PROPOSALS WERE SPECIFIC IN TERMS OF AMOUNTS OF MONEY TO BE PROVIDED BY ARAB STATES AND AS TO THEIR ALLOCATIONS. THE LIBYAN REPRESENTATIVE REACTED STRONGLY TO THE INTRODUCTION OF SUCH A DOCUMENT, WITHOUT ADVANCE WARNING TO THE DONORS AND AT THE LAST MINUTE. IN DISCUSSIONS WHICH FOLLOWED, IT

BECAME CLEAR THAT THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ARAB STATES (SOME AT THE AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL) COULD NOT COMMIT THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO THE AFRICAN PROPOSAL AS PRESENTED. DECISION WAS THEN TAKEN TO REFER THE AFRICAN PROPOSAL TO THE MARCH AFRO-ARAB MINISTERIAL MEETING. CHARGE SAID THERE HAD BEEN A GOOD DEAL OF DISCUSSION ABOUT THE NEED FOR SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE FRONTLINE STATES. HOWEVER, THE ARAB DELEGATES HAD BEEN UNWILLING TO COMMIT THEMSELVES TO THE PROPOSITION THAT THE NEEDS OF THE FRONTLINE TOOK PRIORITY OVER THE PRESSING NEEDS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. THIS QUESTION WAS ALSO REFERRED TO THE AFRO-ARAB MEETING. ONE CONCRETE DECISION TAKEN WAS TO ALLOCATE \$14 MILLION (U.S.) TO ANGOLA IMMEDIATELY.

6. CHARGE INDICATED THAT ON THE POLITICAL SIDE THE DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF PALESTINE AND CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL FOR OCCUPATION OF ARAB TERRITORIES WAS COUCHED IN STANDARD RHETORIC. THE SAME WAS TRUE FOR THE CONDEMNATION OF SMITH AND SUPPORT FOR THE ARMED STRUGGLE. LOW
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